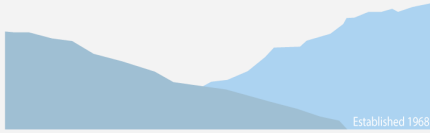


Cracklin' Static

June 2025 Edition



SIERRA NEVADA
Amateur Radio Society

SNARS BREAKFAST
JUNE 7, 2025
See Page 3 for details!

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesdays 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury Closing Balances As of May 30, 2025

Operating	\$4069	
Convention	\$0	
Self Insurance	\$31163	includes
Savings	\$5667	4100 in con-
PayPal	\$1202	vention \$\$
Total	\$32101	

Net Income/Year	\$4041	
Net Income/Month	\$2430	incl hamswap
Memberships	0	raffle

Donations		
PayPal Giving	\$0	
Members	\$485	
Total	\$485	

Notes: 1. Transferred \$2000 from
Paypal to Operating
2. Deposited \$2,140 from
HAM Swap and
Raffle Income
3. Transferred \$1,600 from
Operations to Savings
4. Moved Convention Funds
into Self Insurance

SNARS Membership as of May 29, 2025

Extra	144	37%
Technician	108	28%
General	123	32%
Advanced	10	3%
No License	5	1%
Total	390	

SNARS members ARRL:	247	63%
Life members ARRL:	37	9%

SNARS ARRL Members **288** **73%**

Volunteer Examiners (VE's): **46** **12%**

PRESIDENT'S VOICE

SNARS PRESIDENT BARRY BETTMAN, K6ST



Hi Everyone, **SNARS Field Day** is coming on the fourth weekend in June this month, on **Friday 6-27 to Sunday 6-29** at Washoe Lake State Park, at the Equestrian Center north of the park entrance. Members and guests are welcome to attend this amazing event with the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society.



SNARS ARRL Field Day
June 27-29, 2025
Washoe Lake State Park

Please visit the **Field Day** webpage <https://snars.org/activities/field-day/> and everything there, including a list of events, meals, pictures, and more. Be sure to click on the big green button "SNARS Field Day Sign-Up " on the Field Day page and let us know you are attending so that we can plan for food and other logistics.

And there will be two scout events at field day, one Friday night, and the other on Saturday morning. Please see the "Youth Column" in the newsletter below for more details for Scouts.

We will also have a special amateur satellite system making **QSO's** at **Field Day**, so come on out and join the fun!

BREAKFAST MEETING



And on **Saturday June 7th** is our **SNARS** monthly meeting. Come and join together in person at Jacks #2 coffee shop for no-host breakfast at 7a, then the SNARS Meeting at 8a (in-person) or hybrid on zoom followed by a presentation of the SNARS Field Day with plenty of Questions and Answers.

Hope to see you for SNARS Field Day and talk on the air.

73, K6ST Barry
SNARS President k6st@arrrl.net



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510

Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family

2025 Officers

President..... Barry Bettman, K6ST
Vice-President..... Krystal Nelson AJ6GC
Treasurer..... Doug Edmondo, W7DBE
Secretary..... Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Director John Byerly, N7ROJ
Director Jim Shepherd, W6US
Director Greg Krantz NT7Q

2025 Staff

Cracklin Static	Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
W7TA Trustee	Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
KR7ENO Trustee	Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
Control Operator	Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Youth Involvement	Barry Bettman K6ST
NVQSO Coordinator	Jim Shepherd, W6US
Historian	Robin Maguire-Jones KF7VVE
Tech Team Lead	Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Membership	Kim Farnham, KG7TMA
PIO	Vacant
VE Coordinator	Krystal Nelson, N6KDN
Meeting Greeter	Bill Jones, AE7OX
DMR Net Manager	Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Reno Ham Swap	Wes Vick, KG7QXE
Webmaster	Erik Andreasen, K6CZH
Club Sales Manager	Vacant
Recording Secretary	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE
Equipment Manager	Tyler Maggert, K7TDM

Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com
Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Cracklin' Static is published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday (or whichever Saturday is the meeting) of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	Not Linked
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks (coming soon)	Online

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Online

Fusion Systems

146.610—DGID 28	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Not Linked
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Offline

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online

Online
 Offline
 Not Linked

Visit <https://snars.org/repeaters/analog> for additional updates/status on repeaters.

SNARS In-Person and Virtual Monthly Meeting

**SNARS Monthly Meeting
(hybrid in-person & virtual Zoom)
Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Jack's Café #2,
605 N. Wells Ave, Reno NV. Breakfast
In-Person 7 AM (breakfast), SNARS Meeting
at 8 AM both Zoom and in-person**

**PRESENTATION:
FIELD DAY
PREP!**



**MEETING
NOTICE!**

**SNARS In-Person/Zoom Meeting
Jack's Coffee Shop #2
Saturday, June 7th
REGISTER NOW!
*Click for more info***



To join in person or via Zoom, register here:
<https://snars.org/monthly-meeting/>



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

SNARS Noon Net	Mon—Fri @ 12:00pm
ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday @ 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Weak Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

Join us on SNARS Telegram Channel

Visit <https://snars.org/telegram/>



Telegram

a new era of messaging

Our official channel for members to communicate with each other via chat, ask questions and get the latest information about the club, repeater status and amateur



SNARS Weekly DMR Net

Tuesdays 8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

SNARS CALENDAR

SNARS Breakfast meeting June 7 (see details page 3)

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday, June 11, 6:00PM. Location and mode Chin Chin, Sparks, and on Zoom. Click on this link: <https://snars.org/activities/meetings/>
The calendar is below the monthly meetings.

HAM RADIO ELMERING NIGHT on Zoom
7:00 PM Monday June 16, 2024 see <https://snars.org/hamradionight/>

Reno QRP Group Meeting Tuesday, June 17, 11am – 12pm, Jack's Coffee Shop #2, 605 N Wells Ave, Reno, NV. Contact Ed, WD7Y WD7Y@sbcglobal.net for more info. If cancellation is needed, will be announced on the SNARS noon net.

Next months SNARS Breakfast Meeting, July 5, 7 AM (Zoom 8 AM). Location and media mode tentative, depending on Board decision.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AS OF May 30, 2025

Brian
Gerald

Adams
Klement

N7DEY
N7YPY

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd W6US nvjims@gmail.com

FIELD DAY---COME OUT AND PLAY!

Field Day is a great opportunity to try something different with ham radio. For those poor unfortunate souls who think that ham radio starts and ends with a FM/DMR handheld radio this is your chance to experience new bands and modes. The entire purpose of Field Day is to get on the air and make contacts, lots and lots of them!!!

Come on out to Washoe Lake State Park where SNARS will be holding their annual Field Day activities at the Group Equestrian Area in the north part of the Park. Starting at 11:00 am on Saturday, June 28 and running until Sunday, June 29 at 11:00 am, there will be a bunch of stations set up to make contacts on the HF bands

But you say "I only have a Technician License and can't use those radios"... Well, there will be a bunch of Control Operators there to let you operate. That's right, you can get on those HF bands, and if your Control Operator is an Extra Class License holder, you can use the entire ham radio spectrum on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters!!! If you are in the 10 meter band between 28.300 and 28.497, you can talk to any ham anywhere in the world. This would probably be your first DX experience! (On the other bands, there would be a more limited group of countries you could work due to the Third Party regulations.)

Even if you do not have a license yet, you can still make contacts under the supervision of a control operator. The GOTA (Get On The Air) station will be set up and running under another callsign from the regular club call. You can make at least 20 contacts on this station to get some extra credit for the club so keep operating! If there is a line waiting for the GOTA station, make your 20 and then you can visit one of the other stations and have the opportunity to make more contacts for the main operation. Don't be shy, everyone is there to help!

Most of the contacts that you will make will be with stations in the US and Canada. There will be thousands of stations on the air that all want to talk to someone in Nevada, and you could find yourself calling CQ and having a bunch of stations calling you. Unlike the pileups on the Noon Net, you will be able to at least hear most of the callsigns, and it would be up to you to work the pile... You would probably respond like this "The W6 station, only please" and hopefully just that station will comeback and you can make the exchange with them... Besides just the required exchange, you can give yours, and ask for, their name and location.

There is a required exchange and you will need to give it and log

the exchange from the other station. The first part of the exchange is a callsign. We will be using the club callsign, W7TA, at all the stations except the GOTA station. The second part consists of the number of stations and the station category. Our report would be something like 7A if we run 7 stations and we will be on emergency power as a club station. The third part is the ARRL/RAC section or DX for other foreign stations. In our case, we are in the Nevada Section. Our complete exchange is "W7TA 7A NV". That W6 station would give you an exchange like "W6OAT 1D WWA" which shows that operator is working from home in Western Washington section.

We will have a logging computer at each station, and you will type the copied exchange into the log. The Control Operator will help you get started with the logging. It will add the correct band, and the time in UTC to the record, and since it will be networked with all the other computers, your new contact will show up on every computer! When you sit down to operate, the Control Operator will have you do a "ctrl-o" and enter your callsign in the popup box. This will give you credit for your contacts.

You will probably be excited when you got your first 'VE' (Canadian) contact, and your eyes will probably go wide when that PY2 station in Brazil answers your CQ. You can also go

over to another station that is using one of the new WSJT-X modes. The Control Operator will explain how to use the keyboard and mouse to make contacts with stations that you can't even hear... On 10 and 15 there will usually be a bunch of DX stations to try and work. These modes are very popular, and the users can get awards like Worked All States or DX Century Club in relative short times. As a Tech, you can do these modes on 10 meters, and maybe get these awards before you upgrade.

There may be other special stations available like one to use ham radio satellites or get on 6 meters if there is E skip... There will be a station or two doing CW and unless you know Morse code, you can just watch, and maybe get interested in this mode.

You will get to see a lot of different equipment and antennas. This is a good opportunity to try some of it and talk with their owners about how well they work. There will be lots of good stories told about past and future ham radio events.

Everyone is welcome to come out, see old friends and make new ones, get on the air, learn about various facets of ham radio, and just have fun. There will be a lot more information coming from the Field Day team over the next few weeks, so stay tuned...



N7RCA Radio Ranch Swap Get Together

Minden NV June 7, 2025



WE NEED HELP SPREADING THE WORD

This is a no charge get together for hobbyist, radio enthusiast

7:00 am until???

More Info: www.n7rca.com

RADIO SWAP DIRECTIONS

WHERE: Minden, NV ^{SEP} 15 miles south of Carson City NV.

Bring:

Drinks, food, anything you need, No Services Provided

Chairs, tables etc.

Weather Outlook: Temps in the day time can range from mid 60's to mid 80's Nights in the 60 to low 40's ^{SEP} Bring a hat and sunscreen, the elevation is 5000 feet

Notice: this is a non- commercial get together for the hobbyist only, property owner is not a party to any transaction, not responsible for any loss, damage or injury while on property. If you don't agree to these terms, please don't attend.

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Scouts will have two events at the SNARS Field Day weekend:

Friday 6/27 at 4:30p on how to use their ham radio license on the air with their new Talk-pod A36 handi-talkies followed by dinner with a POTA presentation and live on the air Pota's contacts from Washoe Lake State Park, POTA park designation US-2640

Scouts who earned your license—now it's time to get on the air! Join us for ARRL Field Day on Friday, June 27, at Washoe Lake State Park. This is the biggest amateur radio event of the year, and we're kicking it off with a special night just for new hams like you.

Whether you need help programming your radio, figuring out how to make a contact, or want to learn more about the hobby, this evening is all about getting you comfortable and confident.



Event Details:

- Washoe Lake State Park – Equestrian Group Campground
- Friday, June 27, 2025 Starts at 04:30 PM
- 6:00 PM Dinner provided by SNARS (Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society)/ Volunteers for setup and clean up needed.
- \$5 for parking per vehicle (entrance fee at Washoe Lake State Park)
- For Scouts and Scout Leaders only, sign-up for Friday June 27th event
- RSVP required by June 14 so we can plan food and support. RSVP

Bring your radio, mess kit, and a chair. This is a great chance to learn, connect, and experience the excitement of amateur radio during Field Day. Hope to see you there!

Saturday 6/28 9:00a Scouting Merit Badge. Scouts can earn their Scout merit badge during SNARS Field Day.

For Scouts and Scout Leaders only, sign-up for Saturday June 28th event

Radio Merit Badge – Join Us Online & On the Air!

If you or your Scout expressed interest in earning the Radio Merit Badge, this is your chance to get it done! We're offering two virtual prep sessions and an exciting in-person Field Day experience at Washoe Lake, where Scouts can complete their final requirement and talk on the air with licensed operators.

This opportunity is open to:

- Scouts who previously started the merit badge but haven't finished
- New Scouts interested in completing it this month

Here's the plan:

- Virtual Prep Sessions (via Zoom): Tuesday, June 17 – 6:30 PM to Tuesday, June 24 – 6:30 PM
- Final Session – In Person at Washoe Lake: Saturday, June 28 – 9:00 AM start time
- 11:00 AM – On-the-air contact with licensed hams (**QSO** requirement) Part of the ARRL Field Day weekend with SNARS
- Lunch at 12:00 PM - I am requesting scouts to volunteer for the setup and clean up.

To make this work, we need to know who's in. If your Scout is still interested or started the badge with us earlier, please RSVP by June 14 with this link: [RSVP](#)

We'll follow up with the Zoom links and a checklist so everyone comes prepared. More details about Field Day can be found on SNARS's website

Let's get you across the finish line and on the air!

Best,
Tim Beeler, KA5QDY
Merit Badge Counselor – Radio

SNARS VOLUNTEERING

Thanks to everyone who helps out at the upcoming SNARS Field Day. We thank you in advance!!!

Please feel free to reach out to me to see how you might be of service to the club in 2025! With great appreciation,

K6ST Barry SNARS President k6st@arrl.net

73, Barry K6ST
President, Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society
www.snars.org
Nevada Section Youth Coordinator
ARRL (American Radio Relay League)
www.arrl.org

The national association for amateur radio



SHORT TAKES (By Jim Shepherd W6US)

CONTEST CALENDAR

There are just **3 QSO** parties this month—Atlantic Canadian, Kentucky, and West Virginia... The first weekend will be the busiest with the 4 Canadian Providences, and KY. These will be good ones for technician operators to get on 10 meters and have some fun. The **ARRL June VHF Contest** will be on June 14-16. This is a great opportunity to get out on a mountaintop with a handheld and make dozens of contacts, and if you use better antennas and a radio capable of SSB or other modes, you can make contacts a lot further away. Use the frequencies from 6m on up. These and other contest information can be found at:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.php>

DX

Lots of expeditions this month with the big DX operations in places like Faroe Island, Bermuda, French Polynesia, Ogasawara, Morocco, and Dodecanese Is. More information can be found at:

<https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

THIRD MONDAY ZOOM HAM RADIO NIGHT

We will have our popular Ham Radio Elmering Nights via ZOOM to get your questions answered. It will be held at 7pm on Monday, 19 June. There should be some discussion of Field Day. More information, includ-

ing the link will be published before that date.

HAMFESTS/EVENTS

Las Vegas— On the first Saturday of every month, the local "HAMS" gather at the parking lot, the PETERSON CENTER 6455 Dean Martin Drive. The swap meet is a non-sponsored event. It is held rain or shine and on holidays. There is no charge to set up and sell at this gathering. Selling begins at sunrise and typically runs 2-3 hours, depending on the amount of items and buyers present.

Field Day will be the 4th full weekend in June. **SNARS** will be at Washoe Lake, and other clubs can be found using the locator at:

<https://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

06/14/2025 Flagstaff HamFest

Date: 06/14/2025 Location: Coconino High School, 2801 N. Isabel St, Flagstaff, AZ 86001 Website:

<http://www.flagstaffhamfest.org> Sponsor: **Northern Arizona DX Association/Amateur Radio Council of Arizona** Talk-In: 146.98 (-) Tone 162.2 Public Contact: Mike Hanks, W7QS, 3521 W. Kiltie Loop Flagstaff, AZ 86005 Phone: 928-606-4437 Email: michael_hanks@hotmail.com

NAME THAT RIG?

(Answer on page 11)





ARES NEWS EVENT CALENDAR



EVENTS FOR 2025	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride	6/1/2025		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Silver State 50/50 race	6/7/2025 updated		Silver State Striders	Steve KS6A	ks6a@sbcglobal.net
Pony Express Re-Ride	6/11/2025	6/21/2025	SIERA	Gerry Miller KJ7GEZ	hamspud35@gmail.com
Lost and Found Gravel Grinder SBTS	6/12/2025	6/15/2025		Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrotter@sbcglobal.net
NASTR 75/50/30 Horse Endurance	6/14/2025		Nevada All-State Trail Riders, Inc	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
One Day Ham Review for Technician & General question pool exam.	6/21/2025		Washoe ARES	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com
Truckee Tahoe Gravel Race	6/28/2025		Bike Monkey	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
Alta Alpina Challenge	6/28/2025		Alta Alpina Cycling Club	Jennie Hamiter, KE7YBA	jenniehamiter@mac.com
Death Ride	7/12/2025		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
TAHOE 200 Endurance Run	7/13/2025	7/17/2025	Destination Trail Run	Todd Voigts KJ6DGG	kj6dgg@gmail.com
Tahoe Rim Trail This event has been canceled for 2025 due to construction in the area.	7/19/2025	7/20/2025	Tahoe Mountain Milers	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
Lost Sierra Endurance Race	7/25/2025		Bad Luck Run Club	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
Tahoe Rim Ride 50-Horse Endurance This event has been canceled for 2025 due to construction in the area.	7/26/2025		Nevada All-State Trail Riders, Inc	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
Vegas to Reno Off Road Race	TBD	TBD	Best in the Desert Racing Assn	Keith KC7HTK	kc7htkeith@hotmail.com
One Day Ham Review for Technician & General question pool exam.	8/16/2025		Washoe ARES	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com
Virginia City 100-Horse Endurance	9/20/2025		Nevada All-State Trail Riders, Inc.	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
Red Rock Rumble Horse Endurance, New Event	10/18/2025		Nevada All-State Trail Riders, Inc.	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
One Day Ham Review for Technician & General question pool exam.	10/18/2025		Washoe ARES	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com
Nevada Day Parade	11/1/2025		NV AREA NW DEC	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com
Scheels Turkey Trot	11/27/2025		WC-ARES	Arlan Robinson, KA7ZAU	ka7zau@washoeares.org
One Day Ham Review for Technician & General question pool exam.	12/13/2025		Washoe ARES	John Phillips KL7RI	phillijs@yahoo.com



WCARES^{Inc}
Washoe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service Inc.
 PO BOX 13083 RENO, NV 89507 WWW.WASHOEARES.ORG

Washoe County ARES had an outstanding training session. With Northern Nevada Public Health in partnership with local hospitals, healthcare, first responders, utilities, communications. In conducting a full-scale exercise to test local response capabilities after a significant earthquake in Washoe County. The exercise was built on discussions from a workshop and focus on impacts 24+ hours after the Earthquake. The same exercise was conducted twice on two separate days to allow for adjusting and improving response.

ARES continued on following page.....

ARES NEWS continued from following page....

WC-ARES did digital, analog and Winlink communications. Members were deployed at certain locations. We had team members at the REOC and in ECOMM 1, ECOMM 2. Some members deployed in their personal vehicles. All locations were determined at the time of the exercise. Some members participated from home.

All members did very well on the spot deployment to a certain location with receiving a message to transmit to the REOC. I would like to congratulate the members that participated and thank them for all their hard work and dedication. The first day we ended up having some internal adjustments to do in the radio room at the REOC and what repeater to use. It was nothing that stopped us from receiving or sending the messages. We did very well, different members from different served agencies were very impressed with our capabilities.

Our last event, was great and a successful event. This was the Stetina's Paydirt in Carson City. This event was sponsored by Bike Monkey. ARES Members and other Volunteers provided communicators along the entire course. We were there for emergency communications and to provide any additional information from or to the event coordinators as needed. Lyon County ARES also supported us with some of their members and their communication vehicle. Thank you to all ARES and other Volunteers for their time and support.

Our upcoming events in June that we are currently supporting and looking for other people to help and volunteer. If you would like to support and volunteer with any of the events listed below. Please go to www.washoeares.org and click on the banner at the top of the homepage. We need your help! You don't have to be an ARES member. On these next two events, Volunteers will be placed on the course at Aid Stations, Checkpoints, or other duties and to provide communication and information.

NASTR 30-50-75 Horse Ride, Start and Finish at Washoe Lake on June 14 2025 -one day event.
Truckee Tahoe Gravel Bike Race. Start and Finish at Riverview Sports Park in Truckee June 28 2025

If you have any further questions about events or WC-ARES, Contact Arlan KA7ZAU at ka7zau@washoeares.org

Arlan Duwayne Robinson (KA7ZAU)
ARES- Washoe County Emergency Coordinator
Cell: (775) 233-3530
Website: www.washoeares.org
Email: ka7zau@washoeares.org

SNARS HAM RADIO ELMERING NIGHT

3rd Monday of each month at 7PM PT on Zoom
Join together and Elmer each other for Ham Radio Mentoring Night



MONDAY, JUNE 16, AT 7:00 PM PST ON ZOOM
TOPIC BREAKOUT ROOMS
FIELD DAY PREPARATION, VHF/UHF ANALOG, DMR/FUSION/DSTAR

REGISTER HERE:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZ0ldO-orz8uHNDRXnL1Rl6LiMqJQ_E5opjG

FUN STUFF FOR APRIL

Well, June is the BIG one, at least for those of us here in the US and Canada: FIELD DAY! There are also some State/Province QSO parties, namely the Atlantic Provinces of Canada, the Kentucky, and West Virginia QSO parties. Plus ARRL events are shown in BOLD. Besides FIELD DAY, there's the June VHF contest on the 14th, and Kids Day on the 21st. Don't forget the SKCC test on the 21st, and the Stew Perry 160 event also on the 21st. Busy month!

7 Jun1200 to 8 Jun 0200 3.5-28 Atlantic Canada QSO Party CW Ph www.acqp.ca

7 Jun 1300 8 to Jun0100 1.8-28,50,144 Kentucky QSO Party CW Ph Dig <https://kysoparty.org/>

7 Jun1800 to 8 Jun 2359 1.8-28,50 ARRL Int'l Digital Contest Dig (no RTTY) www.arrrl.org/arrrl-digital-contest

14 Jun 1800 to 16 Jun 0259 50 and up ARRL June VHF Contest CW Ph Dig www.arrrl.org/june-vhf

21 Jun 1200 to 22 Jun 2359 All, no WARC SKCC QSO Party CW www.skccgroup.com

21 Jun1500 to 22 Jun 1500 1.8 Stew Perry Topband Challenge CW www.kkn.net/stew

21 Jun 1600 to 22 Jun 0400 3.5-28 West Virginia QSO Party CW Ph Dig www.qsl.net/wvqp

21 Jun 1800 to 21 Jun 2359 3.5-14,18, 21,24,28,2 repeaters ARRL Kids Day Ph www.arrrl.org/kids-day

28 Jun 1800 to 29 Jun 2059 All, except 60,30,17,12 ARRL Field Day CW Ph Dig www.arrrl.org/field-day

If you want to see the full list, go [HERE](#)

DX FOR THIS MONTH

Lots of DX for this month: Africa, Vanuatu disappearing between the climate and volcanoes, others in Oceania, some of the English islands, even the Dodecanese islands belonging to Greece, (yours truly was stationed in Greece as a Navy CW operator in the late 60s/early 70s, great duty!) and so much more, check the list! TWO DXpeditions to three places, including Cyprus, the Isle of Jersey, and French Polynesia too.

May 27 to Jun 04	Madagascar	5R8RD
May 27 to Jun 09	American Samoa	KH8
May 28 to Jun 09	Cyprus SBA	ZC4GW
May 31 to Jun 07	Market Reef	OJ0L
Jun 01 to Jun 10	Faroe Is	OY
Jun 04 to Jun 11	Madagascar	5R8RD
Jun 06 to Jun 13	Jersey	MJ
Jun 07 to Jun 08	Jersey	MJ
Jun 10 to Jun 26	French Polynesia	FO
Jun 11 to Jun 27	French Polynesia	FO

Jun 11 to Jun 28	Vanuatu	YJ0RS
Jun 14 to Jun 16	Ogasawara	JD1BQP
Jun 14 to Jun 20	Cyprus SBA	ZC4TH
Jun 19 to Jun 23	Palau	T88PB
Jun 25 to Jul 31	Morocco	CN2DX
Jun 30 to Jul 05	Dodecanese Is	SV5

You might check with: <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html> to see more DX, or if others have been cancelled or added to the list.

RENO QRP SLOW SPEED CW NET

NEXT NET SESSIONS WILL BE on June 5, and June 26, at 10AM Pacific DAYLIGHT Time. As always, check with WD7Y@sbcglobal.net to confirm times. Target frequency 7.045 MHz, if busy search somewhere near that frequency.

THE FOLLOWING SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN YOUR REPORT:

NAME ,RST, LOCATION, RIG, POWER, ANTENNA.

REMEMBER TO INCLUDE RST IN YOUR REPORT

Feel free to add something else in your exchange.

Take some time to report RST for other OP's or anything else that comes to mind.

Sharing information about you and your equipment will accomplish two things.

First It gives you and everybody else practice sending and copying.

Second It is nice to spend time on the air with your friends. Consider this a QRP meeting on the air.

Relax and have some airtime fun with your friends.

73/72 Ed/WD7Y

NAME THAT RIG (From page 8)

The Ameco TX62 was one way hams got on VHF, usually the 6 and 2 meter bands, way before repeaters. Most transmitters also required either a VHF converter (an accessory which converted VHF signals down to the HF range), or a receiver which covered the VHF bands, pretty rare at the time. Plus they were generally not very good. The TX62 would run with either a VFO (usually the Ameco VFO-621) or via crystal control using 8Mhz crystals (times 18 multiplier) which were plentiful in the 60s and 70s. The TX62 would run at 75 watts INPUT on CW, or 25 watts INPUT on AM. Outputs were substantially less, in the 10 to 30 watt range. There were few VHF SSB radios back then. The tube complement was a 6U8, 3 6GK6s, a 7868 modulator, and the final was a 7984 Compactron tube. The Ameco TX62 covered both 6 and 2 meters, a popular combination in those days. The TX62 probably sold for about \$80-\$100, from 1967 into the very early 70s.

SNARS SILENT KEYS

IN MEMORY OF SNARS MEMBERS WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

If you know of a SNARS member or friend of SNARS who has passed away recently, submit it to me WB2AWQ@arrrl.net or any Board member for verification and inclusion on this page.

ZERO RETRIES

Reprinted with permission, from Zero Retries Newsletter 0201, dated May 09, 2025

Submitted by Jim Shepherd, W6US

There is a lot more available to those with an interest in radio, and getting a license only adds to this... Unfortunately most hams are hung up on only a couple of activities, an example of that is the preponderance of handhelds and local repeater usage. Getting a younger cohort interested in radio may get started with some of these other activities and then get them into ham radio could really help. At the hamswap this last month, outside of a couple of really young kids, the youngest participants were in their 50s... There were VHF/UHF radios galore for sale but no sign of the dozens of new Technicians looking for equipment.

This article is reprinted with permission. It was first published in Zero Retries newsletter, issue Zero Retries 0201, 2025-05-09 - https://substack.com/redirect/4481b252-c26f-4c7f-9560-0bbe727ebb48?j=eyJ1ljoim2Qyd3h6ln0.Xie9I_c6R4IDoNYHib2PArXeu8eUr_zrdquk2bBthFU

Amateur Radio Isn't Having All The (Radio) Fun

By Steve Stroh N8GNJ

Zero Retries Readers - *This subject is new... ish to me, and I don't know where to look for relevant information. For example, I've heard references to other bands where a license isn't required (for certain power levels), but I've never recorded such information.*

I think this subject is useful information for "radio clubs" or "wireless clubs" such as those at High Schools, STE(A)M programs, Makerspaces, etc. that aren't necessarily involved with Amateur Radio.

There are many, many other ways to have "radio fun" without requiring an Amateur Radio or GMRS license. Please let me know about those also.

So I'd like to eventually publish an update to this article after receiving more input. Please use the comments link at the end of the story to provide additional input on this topic.

In Zero Retries 0200, I made a subtle change in the "prelude" statement that I put in each issue of Zero Retries. Previously:

Zero Retries is an independent newsletter promoting technological innovation that is occurring in Amateur Radio, and Amateur Radio as (literally) a license to experiment with and learn about radio technology.

Now:

Zero Retries is an independent newsletter promoting technological innovation in and adjacent to Amateur Radio, and Amateur Radio as (literally) a license to experiment with and learn about radio technology.

"... in and adjacent to..."

In my (entirely self defined) mission for Zero Retries - trying to document, share, and encourage experimentation and self-education in radio technology by non-professionals, there is a lot of interesting and meaningful activity adjacent to Amateur Radio...

but isn't *Amateur Radio*.

Such activity is significant. "Just get your Ham license" is too simplistic a perspective to say. There are reasons that's not a realis-

tic, or reasonable approach. Some examples:

- You need a low barrier to entry. Example: getting younger kids excited about radio technology at a week long summer camp.
- Use of encryption.
- It's too much hassle to try to get a group licensed as Amateur Radio Operators. Example: A STE(A)M club or Makerspace members to participate in a radio-related activity.
- You live in a rural area where the Amateur Radio club is... I'll just say "not receptive" to new Amateur Radio Operators, especially kids. This is a true story that was told to me. Some minor commercial entanglement that might get "flagged" as "pecuniary interest". Example: Radio experimentation being sponsored by the local electronics store which sells the hardware being used.

Recently this is most notable in the use of LoRa and Meshtastic in the US 902-928 MHz band to build decentralized, off-grid mesh networks for peer-to-peer messaging.

Why does this *matter*? Because Amateur Radio isn't growing (as much as it could) from the addition of a lot of curious young (and not so young) techies. They develop some curiosity about radio technology, and they start looking around for interesting stuff they can experiment with. As an example, [Hackaday](#) regularly presents radio technology projects, hacks, and general informational articles. Fortunately, Hackaday does feature stories about Amateur Radio... but it discusses Amateur Radio as *one* option, of *many*, for experimentation with radio technology.

Thus I think that Amateur Radio is somewhat in denial that they're in the "prime position" to attract the radio experimenters... unless Amateur Radio really knows what "the competition" is. That competition is interesting activities relating to personal experimentation with radio technology that aren't occurring in Amateur Radio or don't require an Amateur Radio license. What follows is not a complete list, and the links provided aren't meant (or verified) to be authoritative (or up to date)... just to illustrate the suggestion.

Note to non-US readers - in the US, it's (almost entirely) legal to *receive* any signal in the electromagnetic spectrum. The best statement I've ever heard about this was from the late Bob "Coop" Cooper, one of the pioneers of receiving satellite television (that wasn't intended for use by individuals). Coop said something to the effect is "whatever I do with signals that fall into my own backyard is my business".

In the US, it's a legal gray area to (attempt to) decrypt transmissions that are encrypted... though that doesn't stop a lot of people from attempting to do so.

It's also a legal gray area to divulge / publish what you've received, especially for some government transmissions. The existence of [Broadcastify](#) and other such "receiver sharing" services would argue that "divulgence" isn't a real issue.

Other national governments have different regulations about what is legal to receive, etc.
But the goal of everything listed below is to have fun with, and learn about radio technology.

Receive Only - Space:

[SatNOGS](#) is a distributed network of ground station receivers for downloading data from experimental research satellites (typically built by a university) in low earth orbit.

[TinyGS](#) is a distributed network of receivers similar to SatNOGS but for use with satellites that are transmitting LoRa modulation on unlicensed spectrum.

Receive Amateur Radio data and voice transmissions from the International Space Station - [Amateur Radio on the International Space Station - ARISS](#).

[Receive weather images](#) from US government weather monitoring satellites.

Receive [Othernet](#) free data transmissions.

- Receive free satellite television broadcasts. There are some satellite television channels that are not encrypted.

[Receive "interesting" transmissions](#) (video) from the US military's FLTSATCOM / UFO satellites. With a tuned, directional antenna, signals can sometimes be heard with a reasonably priced software defined receiver because these satellites operate in the UHF rather than microwave bands.

["Precision time enthusiasts"](#) maintain their own high precision timebases, usually with inputs from Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) such as the US Global Positioning System (GPS). Try to receive [Amateur Radio Earth Moon Earth](#) transmissions. I did a thought experiment for this idea in a series of articles I called Neil's Night ([Zero Retries 0097 - Part 1](#), [Zero Retries 0098 - Part 2](#), and [Zero Retries 0099 - Part 3](#)) to attempt this each July 20th evening, the anniversary of humanity setting foot on Earth's moon, Luna.

Receive Only - Terrestrial:

[Short Wave Listening](#) (HF bands). This is still an absorbing hobby for many.

Listen to HF via online Software Defined Receivers including [WebSDR](#) and [KiwiSDR](#), or put your own Software Defined Receiver online.

Receive WSPR signals and optionally gate data into [WSPRNet](#) and similar systems.

Receive [marine weather charts](#) (Weather Fax) HF transmissions. Scanning (VHF / UHF bands) and optionally gating those signals into [Broadcastify](#) and other such aggregators.

Experiment with [ka9q-radio](#), which is a novel "receive an entire band simultaneously" technology (not tuning or scanning). ka9q-radio can be used to receive multiple HF bands, or entire VHF / UHF bands, including all Amateur Radio repeaters in the 10m, 6m, 2m, 1.25m, 70cm, and 23cm bands.

Receiving APRS transmissions and optionally [gating those into the APRS-IS infrastructure](#), including [aprs.fi](#). Monitoring very small research balloons is a particularly interesting use case of receiving APRS transmissions.

Receiving [AIS](#) (marine) and [ADS-B](#) (aviation) location beacon transmissions and optionally gating those into network monitoring.

Receive [NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards](#) radio. These are transmitter stations that broadcast continuously about weather conditions and have special provisions for alerting during emergency events.

[Receiving digital video](#) (PDF) from an Amateur Radio Digital Television repeater.

Receiving [Amateur Multicast Protocol \(flamp\)](#) file transmissions. These can be all manner of files - images, bulletins, documents, etc. and can be received by anyone with an appropriate (simple) receiver and the flamp software.

General radio receiving experimentation [using inexpensive "RTL-SDR dongles"](#) and other Software Defined Receive units.

Participation in [Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation \(HamSCI\)](#) which despite "Ham" in the name, is not limited only to Amateur Radio Operators. There are many projects such as radio

receivers and magnetometers where individuals with no Amateur Radio license can contribute to HamSCI's mission.

[Radio Direction Finding \(RDF\)](#), better known as "bunny hunting" or fox hunting". This can either be done as a radiosport (very low power transmitter deliberately placed as an RDF exercise) or locating sources of malicious or accidental interference. The concepts are the same from hobbyist, through commercial, and become deadly serious in military conflicts. My favorite RDF device is the [KrakenSDR](#).

It actually seems novel now, but receiving Over The Air (OTA) television broadcast signals can be interesting. Each television transmission can include as many as six individual video streams, and it's sometimes interesting to see what is included.

Transmitting:

[Microbroadcasting](#) using the AM and FM (voice) broadcast bands. You can experiment (carefully...) with transmitting very low power FM with a Raspberry Pi using [PiFM](#) or [Pi-FM-RDS](#).

Transmit and receive:

- Use of unlicensed bands such as 902-928 MHz, 2.4 GHz, 5.x / 6.x GHz.

Use of unlicensed radio services such as Multiple Use Radio Service (MURS), Citizens Band (CB), Family Radio Service (FRS), Unlicensed Personal Communication Service (PCS). Note that [Ribbit / Rattlegram](#) implements data over any Push to Talk two way radio system with no physical connection to a radio device, and this model presages all kinds of experimentation possibilities.

- Use of "Licensed lite" radio services such as General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS).

Open source development of [OpenWRT](#) replacement firmware for Wi-Fi Access Point units.

Bluetooth is [not limited to short range](#) usage.

Use of [LoRa](#) and [802.11ah / Wi-Fi HaLow](#) in unlicensed spectrum.

Use of [Automatic Packet Reporting System \(APRS\) \(typically using LoRa\)](#) in unlicensed spectrum,

- Construction of wide area microwave networks using unlicensed 2.4, 5.x, and 6.x GHz. Such networks are not limited to use by commercial users including Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISPs).

Experimentation with Software Defined Receiver / Transmitter units such as [ADALM-PLUTO](#) operating at very low power levels into inefficient antennas or dummy loads for "communications across a lab bench"

General experimentation with radio technology:

Build a radio receiver kit (assemble components, practice soldering). [One example on Amazon](#).

[GNU Radio](#) open source software development toolkit. [GNU Radio Companion](#) is a visual model (kind of a Graphical User Interface) for GNU Radio.

[Reticulum](#) is a unique entity, essentially an "anything to anything" network router, capable of connecting to [nearly any radio system or any wired network](#).

- If you want to link geographically separated networks (example - mesh networks using 802.11ah / Wi-Fi HaLow) that aren't in radio range of each other, you can experiment with connecting them via Internet. While there are no options for blocks of the older IPv4 addresses for free, experimental use¹ (that I was able to find²), but free experimental use can be done with the newer IPv6 protocol. For example, [Hurricane Electric's Tunnel Broker](#) is a popular and free op-

option that provides a /48 IPv6 block.

- Participation with a public safety entity, such as working with a Sheriff or Police department as an “auxiliary communicator” using their radios under their license. Not exactly experimentation, but at least familiarization with radio communications without requiring an Amateur Radio license.
- Involvement with recreational boating, thus you can use some Marine VHF frequencies and equipment for casual use (boat to boat, or boat to shore).

Experimentation with commercial radio technology systems such as Push To Talk apps over IP / mobile carrier such [Zello](#), and experimentation with Starlink, especially [Starlink Mini](#). Note that Starlink units receive a reasonable number of (apparently, from brief research) [static IPv6 addresses](#).

If you have something really novel in mind, and have a plan for development or testing of a novel system, an FCC [Special Temporary Authority \(STA\)](#) or [Part 5 Experimental License](#) is a possibility.

Get involved in your local [Community Radio Station](#). A community radio station typically broadcasts in the FM band at low power, designed to serve the local community. Such stations are typically operated as a not-for-profit entity and usually staffed and managed by volunteers.

IP900

Lastly, while the [IP400 Network Project](#) is currently focused on Amateur Radio use in the Amateur Radio 420-450 MHz band, one element of the long term development plan is to consider developing a variant of IP400 using the same concept, protocols, etc. with different radio hardware, and power levels compatible with Part 15 (unlicensed) regulations for use in the 902-928 MHz band - **IP900?**

...

In conclusion, the point of listing all of the above options for experimenting with radio technology, *and especially having fun experimenting with radio technology*, that doesn't require an Amateur Radio license is to be easy (well, *easier*) ways to experiment

with and learn about radio technology.

If you're content to experiment with the above... such as many do with Citizens Band, experimenting with data communications in the 902-928 MHz band, or building and operating not-for-profit microwave networks, great! You're learning about radio technology and having fun with radio technology!

Pro tip... once you start doing substantive³ experimentation with radio technology, talk about it on your LinkedIn page. Radio technology experience is a comparatively rare skill and you never know when a company needs more radio technology expertise.

I'll break my usual policy of not mentioning publications behind a paywall for mention in Zero Retries because this topic wouldn't be complete without a mention of a (electronic) magazine - [The Spectrum Monitor \(TSM\)](#). TSM's subscription and back issue fee are reasonable, and each issue is distributed as PDF rather than onerous Digital Rights Management (DRM).

If you want to take the next step in experimenting with radio technology - getting your Amateur Radio license, you'll then be able to transmit on many other radio bands, from Very Low Frequency (VLF) to Microwave (and beyond) at power levels up to 1,000 watts (yes, really)...

Amateur Radio is (literally) a license to experiment with and learn about radio technology.

The April minutes only are enclosed, because the full board has not reviewed the May minutes.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2025- 6:00PM

Chin Chin and Via Zoom

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:00 PM

Board of Directors:

Barry Bettman, K6ST P
Anthony Marcin, W7XM Z
Greg Krantz, NT7Q P

John Byerly, N7ROJ P
Krystal Nelson, N6KDN P

Doug Edmondo, W7DBE P
Jim Shepherd, W6US P

Guest(s) In attendance:
Bob Nelson, KA6NSN

2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion/Action

Approve March 2025 Meeting Minutes , John Motioned, Second by Doug, Motion passes.

3. Approval of Agenda - Discussion/Action

Approve Agenda - Doug Motions, John Seconds, Motion passes.

4. Reports

A. President's Report - No Report.

B. Secretary Report -

1. SOS Filing for 2025 - Tony Reported filings have been completed for 2025
2. Sales Tax Exemption Filing - Tony reported filings have been completed, waiting for confirmation from the Department of Taxation.
3. Resident Agent - Tony reported will need to update the resident agent due to the address is an old address and will start to work on that next. This is a requirement that there is a resident agent to be on file.
4. Tony Reported - 18 New Members - 404 Members as of April 9th.

C. Treasurer - Doug reported 28,763 total balance as of March 31, 2025. Picked up a few items from an estate to be sold at the upcoming ham swap in May.

D. Technical Team -

1. John reported that Peavine is inaccessible at this point due to recent storms. Network is currently offline at Peavine and will need to visit when the site is accessible. Also will be replacing routers this year, there are approximately 3 that need to be replaced as the current ones are aging out.

3. Ophir is running on DC Power and will be working to get a circuit from Dave's site for backup.

E. Control Operators / Trustee - No report

F. Events

1. Ham Swap - Barry reported the swap is coming May 10th, website is up to date with the information and is being advertised on nets and other areas. Wes is helping out again this year.
2. Reno Offroad - Doug reported it was a good show. Was able to talk with several people about amateur radio and the club. Will have another discussion on if it is worth it to attend next year.

G. Education & Youth Activities -

1. Scouts - Krystal reported the next event on the 26th for taking an exam for the scouts.
2. AM Radio Tech Class starting next Wednesday going for 10 weeks discussed by Barry and indicated around 15 signed up along with some youth in the signups.

H. SNARS Noon Net and SNARS Digital Net -

Barry reported net is going well. The digital net was limited due to the outage with BrandMesiter 3103 and C Bridge in the LA data center.

5. Old Business

AV Equipment - Doug reported that the AV Equipment is working well for the breakfast meeting this past Saturday.

6. New Business

7QP - Jim discussed and motioned for sponsoring two plaques for the 7QP next month. Motion was approved to purchase two awards. Approx 50.00 each.

7. Board member and Public Comments

During this time members and board of directors may speak on any topic regardless if the item was agendized.

8. Adjournment - Action

- A. Next Meeting: May 14, 2025 at 6:00PM. Location to be Announced
- B. Call For Adjournment. Adjourned at 6:30pm.